

**September 22, 2009**

**WASHINGTON, DC** - Today, U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri (NY-24) and U.S. Rep. Dan Maffei (NY-25) announced that the Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency would be receiving \$147,906 in Recovery Bill funding to expand the Head Start program in Cayuga County to the town of Cato, NY.

"Using Recovery Bill funding to expand our local Head Start programs to provide a quality early education to our area's children is critical to their growth and development," **Arcuri said**, "I look forward to the continued success of the Head Start program and want to congratulate the Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency on this grant and look forward to the results that it will yield for years to come."

"We know that an investment in early childhood education pays dividends for years and years," **Maffei said**, "This is a smart investment of Recovery Funds and I commend the Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency on their commitment to such a valuable program."

The Recovery Bill funding for the Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency was awarded through the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) discretionary grant program. The Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency will use this funding to expand their Head Start program to Cato, NY in Cayuga County in order to serve 17, three-year old children with a combination of home and in-class programs. The Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency developed a partnership with the Cato-Meridian Central School District to operate their in-class Head Start program in space donated by the school district.

The funding announced today, administered by HHS, was included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Bill) to ensure that the necessary investments are made in Head Start programs across the country. The Recovery Bill, which Arcuri voted for and President Obama signed into law in February 2009.

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